

Superior Court of California County of Mendocino

NEWS RELEASE

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Grand Juror Applicants Needed for Mendocino County

The Superior Court Judges invite all qualified citizens interested in serving on the 2005/2006 Mendocino County Grand Jury to submit their applications to the Superior Court for consideration, announced the Honorable Richard J. Henderson, Chair of the Grand Jury Recruitment/Selection Committee. Applications will be accepted until May 20, 2004. The 2005/2006 Grand Jury term will begin in July, 2005.

The 19 members of the Grand Jury serve for one year and are empowered to investigate the operations of county, city and district governments and to provide civil oversight of local government department and agencies and respond to citizen complaints.

The statutory qualifications for Grand Jury are few. A Grand Juror must be a United States citizen, 18 years or older, a resident of Mendocino County for at least one year, and sufficiently fluent in written and spoken English. A Grand Juror may not serve on any other governmental board or commission during the term and can not be presently holding a public office or become personally active in any campaign of a candidate for elective office. Prior to being nominated, each qualifying applicant is interviewed by a Superior Court judge and background investigations are conducted by the Mendocino County Sheriff Department

A Grand Juror should be able to commit approximately 15-25 hours weekly for a full year to work with the Grand Jury. Since the Grand Jury sets its own agenda and the scheduling of meetings and because small committees perform much of the work, there is considerable flexibility in the work schedule and meeting locations. Training for Grand Jurors will be provided.

There is no question that service on the Civil Grand Jury is an enormous sacrifice of time; however, it is an excellent opportunity to learn about the inner workings of government, while providing a valuable service to the community.

Applications may be obtained in person at the Superior Court, 100 N. State Street, Rm. 103, Ukiah or by calling the Grand Jury at (707) 463-4320. The application and related information is also available on the Internet at: www.co.mendocino.ca.us/grandjury/.

For further information, call Diana Donnelly (707) 467-6437.

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